

MAKING WHEELS A BIG INDUSTRY.

This Year's Output Estimated at Nearly 800,000.

While it is almost an impossibility to give anything like a correct statement of what the output of bicycles will be this year, it is by common consent spoken of as between 400,000 and 500,000 wheels. A majority of close observers in the trade would doubtless fix the figures at 550,000.

Such a large number of wheels represents an enormous outlay, particularly when it is calculated that each wheel sells for an average price of not less than \$65. At this rate the sum produced is \$29,250,000.

This has been the most phenomenal season the bicycle trade has ever known. In many cases the manufacturers have been unable, even though running their factories night and day, to keep abreast with the demand. There are about 250 large and small concerns in this country engaged in turning out cycles, or parts of this interesting vehicle, but next year this number should be slightly increased, judging from the talk one hears among the trade.—*New York Times.*

The Maine in Commission.

The big battle-ship Maine was put in commission on Sept. 12, at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The Maine was built at the navy yard by Government employees at a cost of nearly \$2,400,000, an appropriation having been made by special act of Congress on August 3, 1886. The Maine's keel was laid in 1890. She is rated as a second-class ship, and is one of the biggest battle-ships afloat belonging to the United States Navy.

To Fortify the Dardanelles.

All the journals of Paris publish the report of an interview with M. Turpin, the inventor of the explosive mofinite, in which he is represented as asserting that the Porte has asked him to apply his new discovery in fortifying the Dardanelles. "When my engines get to work," M. Turpin says, "the straits will be impassable to the united fleets of the world." French experts totally discredit M. Turpin's alleged engines of destruction.

Patrick's Bargain.

Lady [suddenly returned from Europe].—Patrick: What does this mean? I left you in charge of our residence while abroad, and I find the front yard filled with clothes lines, and every line full of clothes. Our beautiful place looks like a Chinese laundry. You promised me that your wife would not take in washing.

Patrick:—We haven't taken in any washin', mum. We've only been takin' in hangin' out clothes.

An Expensive Age.

Father (looking over the paper).—More bad news. A hitherto unknown frog pond has been discovered in Central Africa.

Mother.—What is that to us?

Father.—What is that to us? It means that every one of our eight children will have to have a new and revised edition of High-price's Geography.

Oil Lamps in England.

In England more than 10,000,000 oil lamps are used nightly. They cause 300 deaths annually, and in London alone 165 fires a year have been traced to them.

A Child's Definition.

A child in trying to describe the bowsprit of a yacht spoke of it as "the part that sticks out like a sore finger."—*Buffalo Express.*

A Great City.

Bridget (sighing).—Now, you're back, tell me what you saw in New York. Pat (gravely).—The ferry boats, shore, they've got a bow at th' both ends av thim, so they kin go both ways at wanst.

A district school teacher in New Hampshire has had great difficulty in explaining adverbs to a class of children. After toiling faithfully with them, he said: "Bring in a list of adverbs tomorrow. Remember that a great many adverbs end in ly." The next day one boy's list began: "Slowly, tastily, lifily, emily."



Carrie Orena King

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Montrose, Pa., Sept. 25, 1894

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